

<p style="text-align: center;">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Address to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop RCE Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314</p>	<p><i>Application Number</i> 09/924,054</p> <p><i>Filing Date</i> August 8, 2001</p> <p><i>First Named Inventor</i> Hiroyuki SAITO</p> <p><i>Art Unit</i> 2664</p> <p><i>Examiner Name</i> John Shew</p> <p><i>Attorney Docket Number</i> 0050-0094</p>
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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 (Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
 - a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
 - ii. ☒ Other Amendment After Final filed December 23, 2005
 - b. ☐ Enclosed
 - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other _____


2. Miscellaneous
 - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____
 - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 enclosed
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 44987

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

<i>Name (Print / Type)</i>	James K. Weixel	<i>Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)</i>	44,399
<i>Signature</i>		<i>Date</i>	January 20, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print / Type)

Signature

Date